

2(64)/84 PM



फाइल सं०

File No.....

खण्ड

Volume

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

30/11/55

POLITICAL SECTION

अनुभाग

Section

टिप्पणियां/पत्राचार

NOTES/CORRESPONDENCE

.....को सूचीकृत की गई

Indexed on

आस्थाक्षर.....
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Record A/B

अभिलेख ग.....में नष्ट गए
Record C Destroyed in

नोट किया जाए अनुभागीया नोट बुक
नोट न किया जाए

To be noted
Not to be noted in Sectional Note Book

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SUBJECT

NSC Bose

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1000



Prof. SAMAR GUHA
Former Member of Parliament

8/2, Central Park
Calcutta-32
Phone : 72-1600
01 01 1984

Dear Prime Minister,

I have sent the following telegram to
you on 31.12.83

" Mrs. Indira Gandhi
Prime Minister
New Delhi

Please uphold nation's honour asking
London High Commissioner take legal
action against Granada Television
maligning Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Samar Guha"

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha

(SAMAR GUHA)

Mrs. Indira Gandhi
Prime Minister
of India
New Delhi

HEA could perhaps
equiv. *dy*

JSL

46/PM/PM

5/1

2/64

Ag. Guha
6-1

LA.

one. 55/2

35
Don. ✓
✓
Sno 546
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

I enclose a copy of a letter dated 1.1.84
addressed to PM by Shri Samar Guha.

dc
(C.R. Gharekhan)
Joint Secretary
7.1.1984.

Separate copies

Foreign Secretary

Secretary, I&B

JS(XP), MEA

P.M.'s Office

Dated 7.1.84

Pms-1154

Issued to

PBS
7.1.84.

2/64 P111



S.M. 3

A.O. No. 33-CM

Calcutta,
January 21, 1983

Dear Shrimati Gandhi,

18
23.1
P.H.

You must have been aware by this time about the reaction of the people of all walks of life in West Bengal and outside about the denigration of our national leader, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by the Granada Television, part of the Independent Television Network in Britain in their 50-minute documentary on Netaji, entitled "War of the Springing Tiger". It is reported by those who have seen the preview of the film in London that Netaji has been labelled in it as "a clown in Jackboots", and he has been projected as a traitor to the country. Insulting remarks have also been made about the roles of Gandhiji and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the struggle for freedom of the country.

1. A.
237

There is a very strong feeling among the people of West Bengal against this film. We, from the Government of West Bengal, would also like to record our protest against it. The Conference of Political Parties and Chief Ministers recently held in Calcutta also expressed its resentment and condemnation against the reprehensible action of the Granada Television Company. A copy of the resolution is enclosed herewith.

It is unfortunate that a section of the Indians, including Dr. Sisir Bose, who is now an MLA in West Bengal, had extended their help in producing this film, may be, without knowing the real intention of the producers. They should have been forewarned about the anti-Indian bias of the producers, when they had requisitioned the service of Shri Nirod C. Chaudhuri.

2/44

I have noted with appreciation that immediately after coming to know about the actual nature of the film, the High Commissioner of India in London had lodged a protest against it. The Minister for External Affairs, Shri Narasimha Rao has also announced that the film, in the present form, will not be allowed to be shown in India. But, I think, these are not enough. It is reported that the Granada Television have ignored all these protests and the show of the film has started in London.

4
13

- 2 -

I would request you to take up this matter with the U.K. Government immediately and urge upon them to take suitable action to prevent the screening of the film in any part of the world including Britain as was done in the case of the film "Death of a Princess".

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jyoti Basu
(Jyoti Basu)

Shrimati Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.

310/24(1)/84
25-1-84

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2

Resolution Condemning Action of Granada Television Company

This Calcutta Conference of the Political Parties and Chief Ministers expresses its resentment and condemnation against the reprehensible action of the Granada Television Company of U.K. in producing a film on Netaji, in which Netaji and the national leaders of our country have been projected in distorted manner.

This Conference, demands of the Government of India to take suitable actions to prevent the screening of the film in India and outside.

57-
P.M.'s office only

6
56/56/6

Please see and bring to Foreign Minister's notice. Grateful for indication of the lines on which P.M. could reply.

310 fml/74
25-1-84

(H.Y. Sharada Prasad)
25 January 1984

Foreign Secretary

P.M.'s Office PM-2825
Dated 25-1-84

(Wes) P.M. (P.M. —)

P.S. to I.A. may kindly check and indicate whether a reply has been received from Foreign Secy.
W.S.R.
7/1/84 so (on leave)

~~P.S.~~ to I.A.

I have mentioned this to Foreign Secy's office. Please await their reaction.

W.S.R.
8/2

W.S.R.
25/1

P.S.

2(64)

18

7
SNO 5
New Delhi,
February 15, 1984

SNO 56/-
Dear Shri Jyoti Basu,

I have your letter of January 21 regarding Granada Television's film on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Any disrespect to Netaji will naturally be resented by people not only of Bengal but the whole of India. I am told that this particular film adopts a condescending attitude to our entire Independence movement.

As you have observed, we did all we could to forestall the showing of this film on British Television. Unfortunately our attempts did not succeed.

In view of the feelings within the country, this matter is being taken up with the British Government. I hope the British Government will cooperate with us in avoiding needless affront to our public opinion and will see to it that the film is not put on the air again. But even if the Government is willing, I am told that the BBC does not always oblige.

Yours sincerely,

9c
(Indira Gandhi)

21/1/84
Shri Jyoti Basu,
Chief Minister of West Bengal,
Calcutta.

Issued
16/2

Pce
18/2

(E)

HA

Principal Secy

✓ WGA Adv(T)

07812

Pol

59.6

59

8



British Broadcasting Corporation

1 Nizamuddin East New Delhi-110013 India

Telephones : 616108 616102

Telegrams & Cables : LONCALLING, New Delhi

Telex : 2927 BBC IN

February 25, 1984.

Dear Sharada,

I enclose a copy of a recent report which appeared in the Calcutta Telegraph of 23rd February. The report quotes a letter the Prime Minister has written to the West Bengal Chief Minister saying that even if the British government is willing to cooperate with the Indian Government in banning the film on Netaji the BBC does not always oblige. I am sure that this must be a misquotation of the Prime Minister's letter. The BBC never made a film on Netaji. It was made by an independent Television Company. The BBC of course is also not responsible for the programme made about the assassination of the Indian diplomat which has caused a controversy.

59.58/c

With kind regards,

Yours

(Mark Tully)
CHIEF OF BUREAU

25/2/84

Mr. Sec. ~~via~~ H.S.M.
mentioned BBC,
it is a mistake.

Mr. H.Y. Sharada Prasad,
Information Adviser to the Prime Minister,
P.M.'s Secretariat,
New Delhi.

got copy of PM's letter
6272

It is obviously a mistake. They sent
the whole letter to P.T.?
T.A.
26.2

25/2

2/6/17

PM: Ban on Netaji film difficult

By A Staff Reporter

TELEGRAPH
23-2-84

Calcutta, Feb. 22: The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has said that even if the British government is willing to cooperate with the Indian government in banning the film on Netaji, "the BBC does not always oblige." She said this in a letter to the West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, who had earlier written, asking her to request the British government to stop the screening of the BBC film on Netaji, *War of the Springing Tiger*.

Mrs Gandhi has replied that "Any disrespect to Netaji will naturally be resented by people not only of Bengal, but the whole of India. I am told that this particular film adopts a condescending attitude to our entire independence movement."

The letter further said, "We did all we could to forestall the showing of this film on British television. Unfortunately, our attempts did not succeed." She said that the matter will be taken up with the British government and hoped that it would cooperate.

10

22/11/84

S.M.7

Minister of External Affairs

No. 1665-EAM/84

New Delhi
June 21, 1984

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Please refer to your letter of 23rd May 1984, addressed to the Prime Minister, suggesting that the remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose should be brought to India from the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo where they are at present.

As your letter itself suggests, you are aware of the controversy surrounding this question, including the serious reservations expressed by some members of Netaji's family. This controversy has figured in our media from time to time and also in the Parliament.

I need hardly state that we all hold Netaji in very high esteem. But, at the same time we would be reluctant to do anything which might only add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains. Your letter gives the impression of possible rethinking on the part of some members of the Netaji family on this question. It would be better if those members of the Netaji family who have been opposed to this idea in the past were to formally communicate their views to us, particularly if they think differently now.

I fully agree with you that there should be a national consensus on this question before the Government takes a formal decision so that a controversy in any form is avoided at a later stage. Any efforts on your part towards this end would be most welcome.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

sd/12

(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

Shri L. Joychandra Singh
Prajatantra Buildings
Imphal
(Manipur)

Post
22/6/84

2(64)/84

-2-

✓
Copy to Shri C.R. Gharekhan, JS (PMO).

Ramu Damodaran
(Ramu Damodaran)
Addl. PS to FM